the half-bodies 4a and 4b are assembled, these bent extension parts 32 act in conjunction to form a cylindrical shape in which the cable 12 is passed through. Holes 34 are formed in the half-bodies 4a and 4b in positions corresponding to the projections 28 on the above-mentioned housing 2, and these holes 34 engage with the projections 28 when the housing 2 is accommodated, so that positioning with the housing 2 is accomplished. Furthermore, recessed parts 38 (Figure 2) which are separated from each other in the forward-rearward direction are formed by stamping in both side surfaces 36 of the half-body 4a so that these recessed parts 38 protrude to the inside of the half-body 4a. Moreover, holes (not shown in the figures) are formed in the lower-side half-body 4b in positions corresponding to these recessed parts 38. The recessed parts and holes engage in an interlocking engagement at the time of assembly, so that the half-bodies are fastened into an integral unit.

In the upper-side half-body 4a, fastening parts 40 and protruding parts 42 are formed by stamping on both sides of the central axial line of the half-body 4a on the front end 18 and rear part of the half-body 4a. The shape of the fastening parts 40 is substantially rectangular, and slits 40a are respectively formed in the facing inside surfaces of these fastening parts 40. Continuous L-shaped slits 42a which extend forward from the facing inside surfaces are formed in the protruding parts 42 on the rear part of the upper-side half-body 4a. A metal latching arm 44 is disposed in these fastening parts 40 and protruding parts 42.

This latching arm 44 will be described with reference to Figure 4 as well. The latching arm 44 is formed as an integral unit by stamping and bending from a single metal plate. As is shown most clearly in Figure 4 (B), the latching arm has the approximate shape of a shallow inverted

V as seen in the side view. The latching arm 44 has a long, slender plate-form base part 46 and fastening tongue parts 48 which extend in the lateral direction, i.e. in the direction perpendicular to the direction of the longitudinal axis of the base part 46. The tongue parts 48 protrude from both sides of the front end of this base part 46 via neck parts 50. As is shown most clearly in Figure 4 (C), the tip end portions of the fastening tongue parts 48 are formed with step parts, so that each fastening tongue part 48 is on the same plane as the other fastening tongue part 48. A rectangular engaging hole 54 (first engaging part) is formed at an intermediate point in the area extending from the front-end part to the apex 46a of the base part 46, in a position that is located slightly closer to the apex 46a than to the front-end part. The engaging hole 54 engages with the anchoring projection 170 of the female connector 100 (described later), so that the connectors are locked to each other.

The rear-end 56 of the base part 46 is bent downward, and is then further extended rearward, so that a holding part 60 is formed. This latching arm 44 is fastened in place by the respective insertion of the fastening tongue parts 48 on both sides into the slits 40a of the fastening parts 40 of the half-body 4a. As a result, electrical continuity is established between the latching arm 44 and the shell 4. Furthermore, the holding part 60 is held so that it can slide in the slits 42a of the protruding parts 42. This is done so that a smooth locking operation can be performed by the movement of the holding part 60 inside the slits 42a when the latching arm 44 is pressed. This holding part 60 is formed with the same width as the base part 46; however, it would also be possible to form this holding part 60 with a narrower width and to form slits with a narrower

width in corresponding positions of the half-body 4a, so that the holding part can be inserted into these slits.

The enclosure 8 (as best shown in Figure 2) is constructed from an upper-side enclosure half-body 8a (hereafter referred to simply as the "half-body 8a") and a lower-side enclosure half-body 8b (hereafter referred to simply as the "half-body 8b"). The respective half-bodies 8a and 8b are molded as integral units from a synthetic resin. Cable accommodating parts 64 and 65 which have a rectangular shape as seen in a Figure 1, and which protrude outward in order to allow accommodation of the cable 12, are formed in the respective rear parts of the half-bodies 8a and 8b. The rear parts are formed with a narrow width so that these parts are constrained inward. A rectangular cut-out 66 which extends in the direction of insertion is formed in the central portion of the front part of the upper-side half-body 8a. The width of the cut-out 66, i.e. that gap between the opposite end edges 66a, is formed so that this gap is wider than the width of the above-mentioned latching arm 44.

A finger-catch part 68 which extends over the rearward-facing surface 62 of the latching arm is integrally formed on the front-end surface 64a of the cable accommodating part 64. Three projecting ribs 70 which are used to prevent slipping and which extend in the direction perpendicular to the direction of longitudinal axis are disposed on the finger-catch part 68. When this finger-catch part 68 is pressed with the fingers, this part pivots about the fixed end, i.e. the attachment part 72 that effects attachment to the front-end surface 64a of the cable accommodating part 64. Accordingly, the rearward-facing surface 62 of the latching arm, i.e. the pressing part, can be pressed via this finger-catch part 68. As a result, the position of the